

I. Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph appearing at line 29 of page 3 by replacing it with the following paragraph:

The term “at least partially surround” connotes at least partial, opposing establishment of one part or structure around another (see, e.g., Fig. 1). The compression sleeve element may have a first elongated member compression surface (11) and a larger elongated compression member surface (12) that act to transfer a compression force to the first elongated member and the larger elongated member, respectively. In some embodiments, the first elongated member compression surface may be an inner part of an inwardly projecting, annular (or partially annular) lip that overhangs at least part of an edge of the larger elongated member. Additionally, for purposes relative to clarity of description of the inventive technology, the third portion of the first elongated member may have a first longitudinal axis (13) and the at least a fourth portion of the larger elongated member may have a second longitudinal axis (14). It should be noted that the term “at least a fourth portion” may be used because, indeed, it may be that in some embodiments of the inventive technology the entire larger elongated member may have nested within it the third portion of the first elongated member.

Please amend the paragraph appearing at line 26 of page 5 by replacing it with the following paragraph:

Deactivation of the compression enhancement element connotes manipulation of the compression retention element only such that the compressive force that retains the first elongated member in fixed relative position is removed. Deactivation is a step that is different and exclusive of the step of effective disengagement, discussed below. In embodiments where there is no clamping lever, deactivation may involve the sufficient loosening of a bolt to just release the compressive force that retains the first elongated member in fixed position relative to the larger elongated member. In embodiments where there is a clamping lever (see, e.g., Fig. 1), deactivation may only involve the

manipulation of the lever to just remove the compressive force. Even in embodiments where there is a clamping lever, there may be a threaded bolt (24) and nut (the lever, nut, bolt and collar all considered parts of the compression enhancement element), but in such levered designs, activation and deactivation of the compression enhancement element typically does not involve manipulation of that bolt or nut. After deactivation, the first elongated member may be movable relative to the larger elongated member.

Please amend the paragraph appearing at line 1 of page 22 by replacing it with the following paragraph:

ABSTRACT

The inventive technology is, in at least one embodiment, an apparatus (1) that comprises a compression sleeve element (2) established at least partially around portions of a first elongated member (6) that telescopes from a larger elongated member (8) in which it may nest. A relative motion obstruction element (4) may disallow only certain types of motion, e.g., rotational and axial, of the compression sleeve element relative to the elongated members around which it may be at least partially established. As it may be the compression enhancement element (3) – which may be used to generate a retaining compression force element – that prevents perpendicular displacement of the compression sleeve element, deactivation and effective disengagement of the compression enhancement element may allow for a quick removal of the compression sleeve element without requiring that it be slid off an end of either elongated member.